



WHAT IT IS - WHAT IT MEANS – WHAT IT OFFERS

Expecting More

- ▶ Getting children ready to take their place in the world is challenging.
- ▶ The knowledge and skills students need for a well-paying job continually evolve to meet current and future workplace demands.



Expecting More

- ▶ To ensure students can meet these demands, the State Board of Education **routinely** strengthens Michigan learning standards.
- ▶ State standards broadly outline what students need to know and are able to do in each subject and grade level to be career- and college-ready upon high school graduation.

Expecting More

- ▶ Standards also serve as a foundation for teachers to develop classroom curriculum and lesson plans.
- ▶ Today's standards challenge students to:
 - ✓ Develop a deeper understanding of subject matter.
 - ✓ Learn how to think critically.
 - ✓ Apply what they are learning to the real world.
 - ✓ Make learning relevant in their lives.

Achieving More



Just as “world-class” athletes continue to break records that were once thought unreachable, today’s learners aim higher as state standards rise to meet future workforce demands.

Achieving More

As student knowledge increases, student achievement on state assessments should increase and help ensure all students are prepared for success in college and the workplace.

What Business and Higher Ed are Saying About High Standards

High education standards and aligned assessments are critical to the success of all Michigan students

Business Leaders for Michigan and President's Council, State Universities of Michigan

What is M-STEP?

New learning standards require new ways to measure how much students know and can do.

That's why in 2014-15, Michigan replaced the 44-year-old MEAP test with the new Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP).

What is M-STEP?

M-STEP is aligned to Michigan's challenging learning standards. It is administered each spring to students.

M-STEP has fewer multiple choice questions than the previous MEAP assessment and more questions that require problem solving and critical thinking skills.

What are Michigan Standards?

- ▶ They are learning goals for mathematics, English language arts (ELA), science and social studies.
- ▶ They prepare students for college and careers.
- ▶ They are educator-developed.
- ▶ They will help students compete nationally and globally.
- ▶ They are not a curriculum or federal program.

Why Must Students Take State Assessments?

- ▶ Once each year, all students take a high-quality state assessment. State assessments provide:
 - An important snapshot of student achievement at state, district, and building levels.
 - Valuable information to parents on their child's academic achievement.
 - Important data for teachers, schools, and districts to help guide instruction.

Why are State Assessments Important?

These assessments are required by both state and federal law in order to ensure all children are learning and receiving a high-quality education.

High School Assessments

9th and 10th Grade Assessments

- ▶ New state law requires all 9th and 10th grade students to take a state summative assessment in the spring, called the PSAT (PreSAT).

High School Assessments

9th and 10th Grade Assessments

- ▶ The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) will provide for the statewide administration of the PSAT for students in grades 9 and 10 in Spring 2016. For more information, please contact your local high school.

High School Assessments

11th Grade Assessments

- ▶ The Michigan Merit Exam (MME) is the general assessment for students in Grade 11.
- ▶ The MME includes:
 - ▶ A free SAT with Essay college entrance exam. SAT is the nation's most widely-used college admission test and is aligned with Michigan's academic standards.
 - ▶ A work skills assessment (ACT WorkKeys)
 - ▶ M-STEP science and social studies components.

Spring 2016 M-STEP ELA Test Reduced

- ▶ Last year, the English language arts (ELA) test for all students included a two-hour performance task.
- ▶ Beginning in the spring of 2016, students in grades 3,4,6,7 no longer will take the performance task, **reducing** ELA testing time by 2 hours.
- ▶ The performance task only will be given once to elementary and middle school students, in grades 5 and 8.

Spring 2016 MME Reduced

- ▶ Beginning in spring 2016, the SAT will serve as both a college entrance exam and as the M-STEP English language arts (ELA) and mathematics assessment.

This will **reduce** state-required testing time by up to eight hours for students in grade 11.

Time Students Spend on State Assessments

- ▶ State assessments comprise less than ***one percent*** of student instructional time during a school year.
- ▶ All other assessments are determined at the local district or building level.

Support for High School Students

- ▶ To prepare students for the College Board's PSAT and the SAT with Essay, Michigan students now have free access to the Khan Academy for online test practice.
- ▶ For more information on the PSAT and SAT, please visit: the College Board's Michigan website at: [Michigan College Board web page](#).

When Will My Student Take the M-STEP?

The Online Testing Schedule

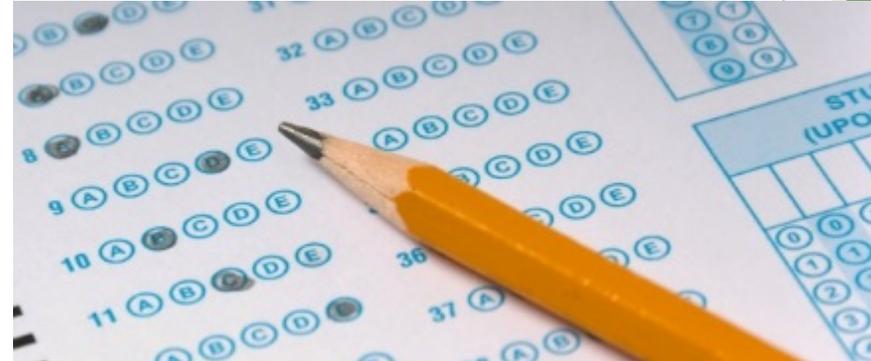
- ▶ To provide districts and schools scheduling flexibility, online M-STEP testing sessions can be scheduled on any instructional day within a 3-week window.
- ▶ Not all students need to be administered the same assessment at the same time, nor on the same day.
- ▶ Test sessions are **not** timed (with the exception of College Entrance and Work Skills Tests). Students should be allowed extra time if they need it.

Spring 2016 Online Testing Schedule

Grade Level	Content Areas Assessed	Testing Window
Grades 3 and 6	Mathematics and ELA	April 25 through May 13
Grades 4 and 7	Mathematics, ELA, and Science	May 9 through May 27
Grades 5 and 8	Mathematics, ELA, and Social Studies	April 11 through April 29
Grades 9 and 10	PreSAT (PSAT)	April 12 or 13 April 26 or 27 (Makeup)
Grade 11	Science, and Social Studies	April 11 through April 29
	SAT	April 12 or April 26 (Makeup)
	WorkKeys	April 13 or April 27 (Makeup)
MI-Access Alternate Assessment - all grades, all content areas		April 11 through May 27
WIDA for students who are learning the English language		February 8 through March 25

Paper and Pencil Option

If a district has determined it has a school that is not yet technology-ready, it may request a waiver from administering the M-STEP online.



The paper and pencil test administration will be on designated dates within the online test window.

Release of 2014-15 Test Results

- ▶ The Spring 2015 M-STEP state assessment results will be released in the fall.
- ▶ Student performance will be described as one of four levels: not proficient, partially proficient, proficient, and advanced.
- ▶ *The M-STEP is a very different test than tests administered in past years; therefore, results should not be compared to those from prior years.*

Questions?

- ▶ Visit the M-STEP web page at [M-STEP web link](#)
- ▶ Email the MDE Assessment and Accountability Office at baa@Michigan.gov
- ▶ Call 877-560-8378 toll-free